

Appl. No. 10/655,836
Atty. Docket No. CM2780
Amdt. Dated 10/20/2005
Reply to Office Action of 08/02/2005
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A structuring system suitable for incorporation into liquid fabric treatment compositions, which structuring system comprises as added components (A) a non-polymeric, crystalline, hydroxyl-containing structuring agent, which can crystallize to form a thread-like structuring network throughout liquid matrices; (B) a nonionic emulsifier; (C) an anionic emulsifier; and (D) a liquid carrier wherein the anionic emulsifier is present at a concentration from 0.1% to 8.0% by weight of the structuring system wherein the structuring system is free of any antiperspirant actives, namely aluminum zirconium complexes, aluminum chlorohydrates, aluminum chlorohydroxides, and mixtures thereof.
2. (Original) A structuring system according to claim 1 wherein the total amount of emulsifier present is at least 5% and does not exceed 50% by weight of the structuring system.
3. (Original) A structuring system according to claim 1 wherein the structuring agent is present at a concentration from 0.1% to 80% by weight of the structuring system.
4. (Original) A structuring system according to claim 1 wherein the structuring agent is selected from the group consisting of fatty acids, fatty esters, fatty soap water-insoluble wax-like substances and mixtures thereof.
5. (Original) A structuring system according to claim 4, wherein the structuring agent is castor wax.
6. (Original) A structuring system according to claim 1 wherein the nonionic emulsifier is selected from the group consisting of alkoxylated nonionic emulsifiers, amidofunctional nonionic emulsifiers, condensation products of primary aliphatic alcohols with from 1 to 75 moles of C₂ to C₃ alkylene oxide, and from semi-polar emulsifiers having the formula: R(EO)_x(PO)_y(BO)_zN(O)(CH₂R)₂ wherein R is a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched C₈ to C₂₀

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hydrocarbyl moiety; R' is a C₁ to C₄ hydrocarbyl moiety; and x, y, z are each from 0 to 100; and wherein the anionic emulsifier is selected from the group consisting of sulfonate or sulfonic acid emulsifiers including their acid form and their salt forms of C₅ to C₂₀ alkylbenzene sulfonates, C₅ to C₂₀ alkyl ester sulfonates, C₆ to C₂₂ primary or secondary alkane sulfonates, C₅ to C₂₀ sulfonated polycarboxylates acids, and mixtures thereof.

7. (Original) A structuring system according to claim 1 wherein in the structuring system, the weight ratio of the nonionic emulsifier to the anionic emulsifier is between 100:1 to 1:1.

8. (Original) A structuring system according to claim 1 further comprising one or more components selected from the group consisting of pH-adjusting agents, suds suppressors, and mixtures thereof.

9. Canceled

10. (Withdrawn) A structuring system suitable for incorporation into liquid fabric treatment compositions, which structuring system comprises as added components (A) from 2.0% to 6.0% wt. of a hydrogenated castor oil derivative; (B) from 10% to 40% wt. of a nonionic emulsifier; (C) from 0.5% to 6.0% wt. of an anionic emulsifier; and (D) from 48% to 87.5% wt. of a liquid carrier.

11. (Withdrawn) Process for preparing a structuring system suitable for incorporation into liquid fabric treatment compositions, said process comprises the steps of: (A) premixing the anionic emulsifier with the liquid carrier; (B) mixing the nonionic emulsifier with the premix from step (A); and (C) mixing the structuring agent with the premix from step (B) to form said structuring system, wherein the anionic emulsifier is present at a concentration from 0.1% to 8.0% by weight of the structuring system.

12. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 11 wherein the premix from step (B) or the mixture resulting from step (C) is heated to a temperature above room temperature.

13. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 11 wherein the premix from step (B) or the mixture resulting from step (C) is heated to a temperature above the melting point of the structuring agent.

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14. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 12 wherein the resulting structuring system after completion of step (C) is cooled down to a temperature of or below the crystallization temperature of the structuring agent.

15. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 13 wherein the resulting structuring system after completion of step (C) is cooled down to a temperature of or below the crystallization temperature of the structuring agent.

16. (Withdrawn) A liquid fabric treatment composition comprising a structuring system suitable for incorporation into liquid fabric treatment compositions, which structuring system comprises as added components (A) a non-polymeric, crystalline, hydroxyl-containing structuring agent, which can crystallize to form a thread-like structuring network throughout liquid matrices; (B) a nonionic emulsifier; (C) an anionic emulsifier; (D) a liquid carrier; wherein the anionic emulsifier is present at a concentration from 0.1% to 8.0% by weight of the structuring system, and wherein said liquid fabric treatment composition further comprises one or more fabric care agents of limited solubility

17. (Withdrawn) A liquid fabric treatment composition according to claim 16 wherein said limited solubility fabric care agent is selected from the group consisting of fabric softening agents, anti-abrasion polymers, dye fixative agents, optical brighteners, fabric substantive perfumes, soil release polymers, and mixtures thereof.

18. (Withdrawn) A liquid fabric treatment composition according to claim 17 wherein said limited solubility agent comprises a cationic, quaternary nitrogen containing silicone.

19. (Withdrawn) A liquid fabric treatment composition according to claim 16 which additionally contains a cationic scavenging agent for the anionic emulsifier of the structuring system.

20. (Withdrawn) A liquid fabric treatment composition according to claim 16 wherein the structuring system is present at a concentration from 0.1% to 50% by weight of the composition.